

What is claimed is: /

1 1. A method comprising:
2 receiving a satellite signal spectrum in a receiver;
3 and
4 determining a local oscillator (LO) frequency for a
5 signal channel within the satellite signal spectrum, the LO
6 frequency being away from a center of a widest signal
7 channel by greater than half of a signal band of the widest
8 signal channel and less than half of a passband width of a
9 baseband filter of the receiver.

1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising
2 selecting the LO frequency from a first LO selection region
3 and a second LO selection region, each of which are
4 adjacent to a signal channel.

1 3. The method of claim 2, further comprising
2 selecting the LO frequency to be outside of the signal band
3 of the signal channel by at least a first amount to avoid
4 1/f noise and a DC offset effect.

1 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising
2 determining an error value corresponding to a frequency
3 error of a LO generating the LO frequency.

1 5. The method of claim 4, further comprising storing
2 the error value in a storage medium.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the baseband
2 filter has a smallest passband width that is wider than a
3 width of the widest signal channel and half of a LO-step
4 frequency, wherein the receiver comprises one tuner.

1 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 mixing the satellite signal spectrum with the LO
3 frequency to obtain a downmixed signal; and
4 filtering the downmixed signal using the baseband
5 filter.

1 8. The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 selecting the LO frequency to cause a center frequency of
3 the downmixed signal to be at a center of a passband of the
4 baseband filter.

1 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising
2 determining a new LO frequency for a new signal channel
3 within the satellite signal spectrum, the new LO frequency
4 being outside of a signal band of the new signal channel
5 and an offset region surrounding the new signal channel.

1 10. The method of claim 9, further comprising
2 selecting the new LO frequency so that it does not
3 interfere with one or more existing LO frequencies.

1 11. The method of claim 10, further comprising
2 selecting the new LO frequency from a LO candidate
3 selection region that is outside a crosstalk region
4 surrounding the one or more existing LO frequencies.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the LO candidate
2 selection region is outside a crosstalk region surrounding
3 ~~harmonics of the one or more existing LO frequencies.~~

1 13. The method of claim 11, further comprising
2 maintaining parameters of existing signal channels when
3 tuning the new signal channel.

1 14. A receiver comprising: /
2 a first mixer to mix a received signal spectrum with a
3 first local oscillator (LO) frequency to obtain a first
4 downmixed signal;
5 a first baseband filter to filter the first downmixed
6 signal to obtain a first digital baseband signal for a
7 first signal channel; and
8 a storage medium including information regarding a
9 minimum filter bandwidth for the first baseband filter, the

10 minimum filter bandwidth based upon a widest signal channel
11 for the received signal spectrum and a separation
12 frequency.

1 15. The receiver of claim 14, further comprising:
2 a plurality of mixers to each mix the received signal
3 spectrum with one of a plurality of local oscillator (LO)
4 frequencies to obtain a plurality of downmixed signals; and
5 a plurality of baseband filters to each filter one of
6 the plurality of downmixed signals to obtain digital
7 baseband signals for a plurality of signal channels.

1 16. The receiver of claim 15, wherein the minimum
2 filter bandwidth is equal for the plurality of baseband
3 filters of the receiver.

1 17. The receiver of claim 14, wherein the minimum
2 filter bandwidth is determined based on a number of tuners
3 within the receiver.

1 18. The receiver of claim 14, wherein a LO step
2 frequency of the receiver is based on a number of tuners
3 present in the receiver.

1 19. The receiver of claim 18, wherein the minimum
2 filter bandwidth is at least equal to the LO step frequency

3 and a width of the widest signal channel, wherein the
4 receiver comprises two tuners.

1 20. The receiver of claim 18, wherein the minimum
2 filter bandwidth is at least equal to half of a width of
3 the widest signal channel and a predetermined value
4 multiplied by the LO step frequency, wherein the receiver
5 comprises three tuners.

1 21. The receiver of claim 18, wherein the minimum
2 filter bandwidth is at least equal to a width of the widest
3 signal channel and a predetermined value multiplied by the
4 LO step frequency, wherein the receiver comprises four or
5 more tuners.

1 22. The receiver of claim 14, wherein a LO step
2 frequency of the receiver is greater than the separation
3 frequency, wherein the receiver comprises at least four
4 tuners.

1 23. The receiver of claim 14, wherein a LO step
2 frequency of the receiver is less than the separation
3 frequency, wherein the receiver comprises three or fewer
4 tuners.

1 24. The receiver of claim 14, wherein the storage
2 medium further includes instructions that if executed
3 enable the receiver to select a new LO frequency that does
4 not interfere with one or more existing LO frequencies.

1 25. The receiver of claim 24, wherein the storage
2 medium further includes instructions that if executed
3 enable the receiver to select the new LO frequency based on
4 a value of the one or more existing LO frequencies and
5 relative locations of one or more existing signal channels
6 and a new signal channel.

1 26. An apparatus comprising: /
2 a first tuner to receive a satellite signal spectrum;
3 a first oscillator to generate a first local
4 oscillator (LO) frequency to be mixed with the satellite
5 signal spectrum to obtain a first signal channel; and
6 a selection circuit to determine the first LO
7 frequency, wherein the first LO frequency is outside of a
8 signal band of the first signal channel and within a
9 passband width of a first baseband filter of the first
10 tuner.

1 27. The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising:
2 a second tuner to receive the satellite signal
3 spectrum; and

4 a second oscillator to generate a second LO frequency
5 to be mixed with the satellite signal spectrum to obtain a
6 second signal channel.

1 28. The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the selection
2 circuit is adapted to determine a new LO frequency, wherein
3 the new LO frequency does not interfere with an existing LO
4 frequency.

1 29. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the selection
2 circuit determines the new LO frequency based on a
3 crosstalk region of the existing LO frequency and a
4 frequency location of an existing signal channel and a new
5 signal channel.

1 30. The apparatus of claim 27, further comprising:
2 a third tuner to receive the satellite signal
3 spectrum; and
4 a third oscillator to generate a third LO frequency to
5 be mixed with the satellite signal spectrum to obtain a
6 third signal channel.

1 31. The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the selection
2 circuit is adapted to determine the third LO frequency,
3 wherein the third LO frequency does not interfere with the

4 first LO frequency or the second LO frequency, wherein the
5 apparatus comprises three tuners.

1 32. The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the selection
2 circuit is adapted to select one of the first LO frequency
3 or the second LO frequency for use in obtaining the third
4 signal channel from the satellite signal spectrum, wherein
5 the apparatus further comprises a multiplexer.

1 33. The apparatus of claim 30, further comprising:
2 a fourth tuner to receive the satellite signal
3 spectrum; and
4 a fourth oscillator to generate a fourth LO frequency
5 to be mixed with the satellite signal spectrum to obtain a
6 fourth signal channel.

1 34. The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the selection
2 circuit is adapted to determine the fourth LO frequency,
3 wherein the fourth LO frequency does not interfere with the
4 first LO frequency, the second LO frequency, or the third
5 LO frequency.

1 35. The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the selection
2 circuit is adapted to select one of the first LO frequency,
3 the second LO frequency, or the third LO frequency for use
4 in obtaining the fourth signal channel from the satellite

5 signal spectrum, wherein the apparatus further comprises a
6 multiplexer.

1 36. The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the first
2 tuner, the second tuner, the third tuner, and the fourth
3 tuner are adapted on a single integrated circuit.

1 37. A method comprising: /
2 determining a smallest passband for at least one
3 baseband filter of a receiver based on a widest received
4 signal channel width and a separation frequency of the
5 receiver.

1 38. The method of claim 37, wherein the smallest
2 passband of the at least one baseband filter is at least
3 equal to a local oscillator (LO) step frequency and a width
4 of a signal channel, wherein the receiver comprises two
5 tuners and the width of the signal channel is greater than
6 or equal to two times the separation frequency.

1 39. The method of claim 37, wherein the smallest
2 passband of the at least one baseband filter is at least
3 equal to half of a width of a signal channel and a
4 predetermined value multiplied by a local oscillator (LO)
5 step frequency, wherein the receiver comprises three tuners

6 and the width of the signal channel is less than two times
7 the separation frequency.

1 40. The method of claim 37, wherein the smallest
2 passband of the at least one baseband filter is at least
3 equal to a width of a signal channel and a predetermined
4 value multiplied by a local oscillator (LO) step frequency,
5 wherein the receiver comprises at least four tuners.

1 41. The method of claim 37, further comprising
2 setting a local oscillator (LO) step frequency for the
3 receiver.

1 42. The method of claim 37, further comprising
2 setting a crosstalk region for the receiver.